Air Quality Planning Process: Team 1, Group 2

AQM Subcommittee Meeting

RTP, NC

May 19, 2006

Group 2 : Recommendations

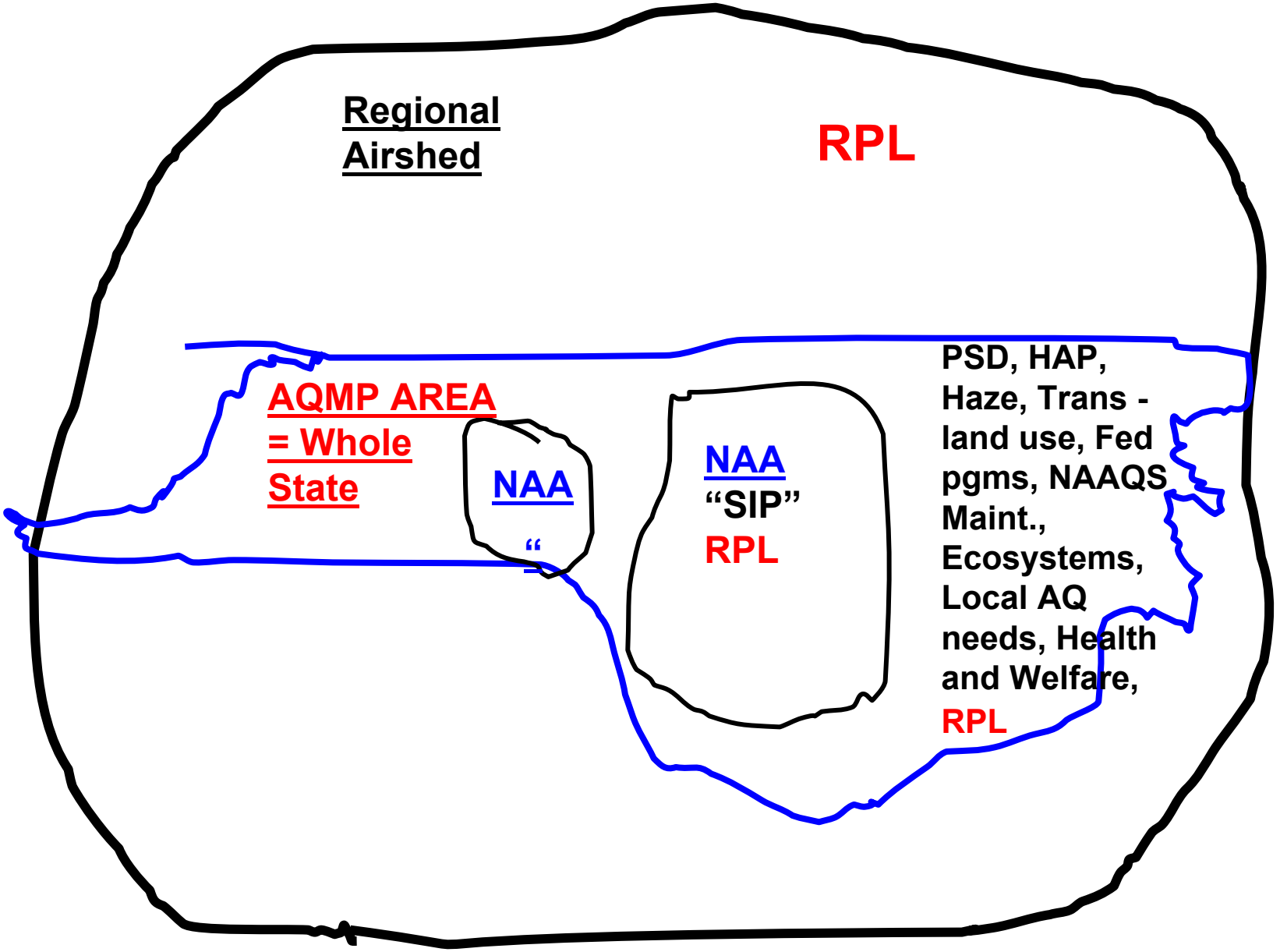
- **Create Comprehensive Air Quality Management Plan**
- **Determine Meaningful Boundaries**
- **Improve Local Air Quality Planning**
- **Set Reasonable Performance Levels**
- **Assure Progress through Continuous Improvement**
- **Use Episodic Control Measures**

Comprehensive Air Quality Management Plan

- **BACKGROUND**
  - **There are advantages to creating an approach for addressing air pollutants in an integrated manner, including attainment of the NAAQS, sector-based reductions of HAPs, and criteria pollutants, and a more effective use of resources.**
  - **A single pollutant approach can result in control strategies/technologies that cause disbenefits.**

Comprehensive Air Quality Management Plan

- **RECOMMENDATION**
  - **Create a comprehensive plan that is multi-pollutant based and which addresses all of the critical air pollution issues within a State, sets priorities, and provides an overall plan. The plan would be updated on a fixed schedule (e.g., 5, 7, or 10 years).**


Regional Airshed
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AQMP AREA = Whole State
NAA
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NAA
"SIP"
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PSD, HAP, Haze, Trans - land use, Fed pgms, NAAQS Maint., Ecosystems, Local AQ needs, Health and Welfare,
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Boundaries

- **BACKGROUND**
  - **There is a strong need to improve and better coordinate interstate planning to more accurately reflect the science of air pollution formation and transport.**

Boundaries

- **RECOMMENDATION**
  - **Use "regional airsheds" to approximate the boundaries of emission source areas most likely to contribute to nonattainment areas. Such areas would form a rough approximation of the AOI concept. AOV can be applied simply as the areas not meeting the NAAQS (i.e., existing nonattainment areas).**

Local Air Quality Planning

- **BACKGROUND**
  - **A new local planning paradigm is needed if states, local governments and reservations are going to preserve clean air below the NAAQS level while also promoting population growth and the vitality of their economies.**

Local Air Quality Planning

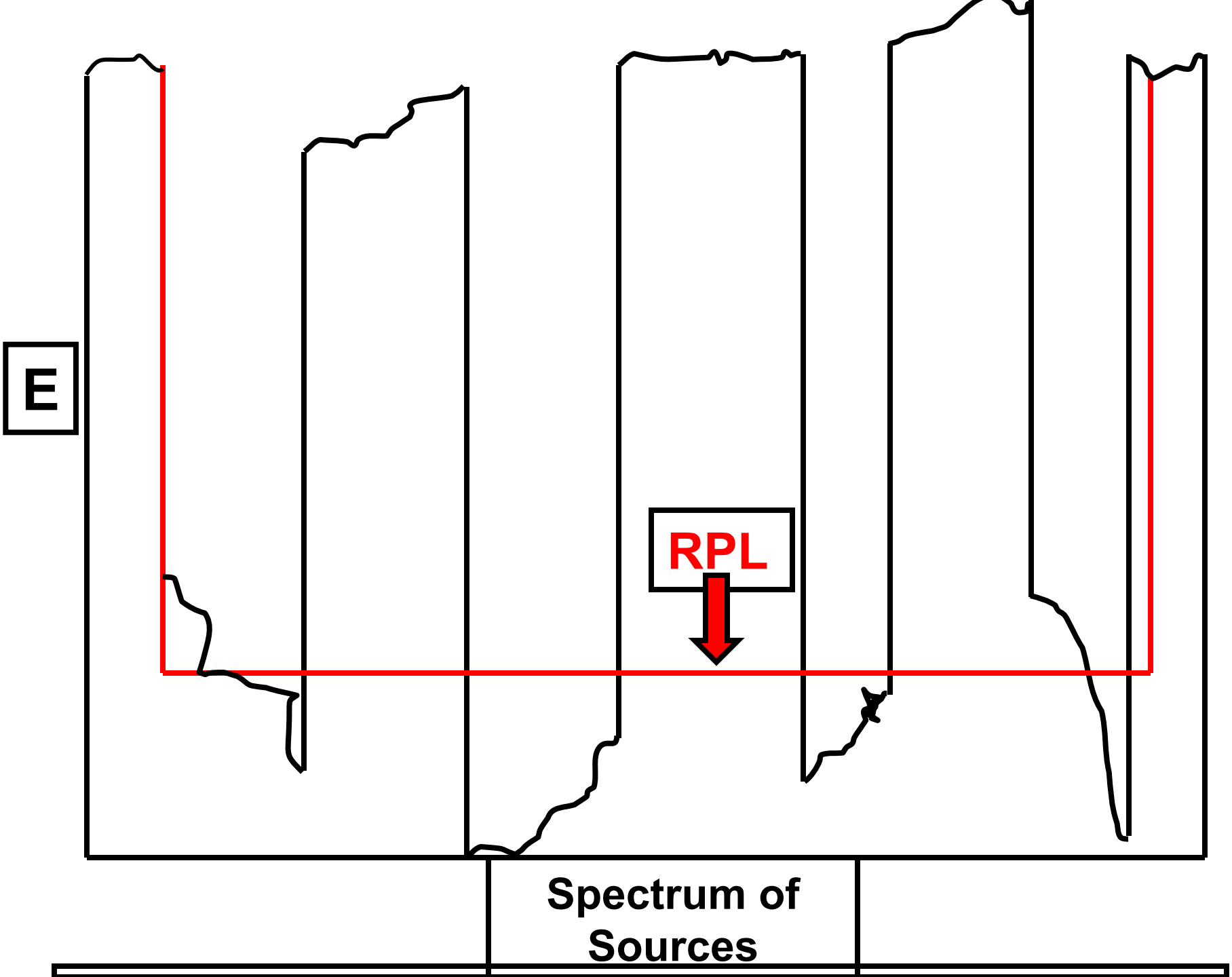
- **RECOMMENDATION**
  - **Local/Tribal governments should be required to integrate air quality planning into their land use, transportation and community development plans when high population growth is occurring in order to prevent significant deterioration of air quality.**

Reasonable Performance Levels

- **BACKGROUND**
  - **Local impacts still occur from nearby sources and regional impacts occur as pollutants are transported lengthy distances.**
  - **In spite of multiple requirements (BACT, RACT, LAER, BART), many sources have not controlled their emissions to the degree that is feasible.**
  - **Continued growth makes it more difficult to maintain air quality goals.**

Reasonable Performance Levels

- **RECOMMENDATION**
  - **All new and existing sources (stationary, area, and mobile) that directly or indirectly contribute to ambient air quality problems should be required to meet reasonable performance levels.**
  - **Issues to be addressed**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Spectrum of Sources

Continuous Improvement

- **BACKGROUND**
  - **There is a benefit to establishing a program that encourages continuous improvement with respect to emission rates and ambient air pollution concentrations.**
  - **A one-size-fits-all recommendation cannot be made and multiple programs could be pursued simultaneously.**

Continuous Improvement

- **RECOMMENDATION**
  - **Consider and implement a combination of options and to achieve continuous improvements. Recommendations range from voluntary programs at the local level to strengthening or enhancing various market-based programs.**

Episodic Control Measures

- **BACKGROUND**
  - **There has been a need for a number of communities to develop public information campaigns and voluntary programs to reduce emissions on specific days when high ozone concentrations are expected.**
  - **Episodic control measures can provide an important set of cost-effective control opportunities for states and local communities, and these measures are capable of yielding sizable emission reductions when they are most needed.**

Episodic Control Measures

- **RECOMMENDATION**
  - **Expand the use of episodic control measures to attain and maintain ambient air quality standards in areas where all reasonable continuous control measures have already been required.**